

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
using a plurality of cells of a content addressable memory (CAM) array as a decoder; and
algorithmically testing a second plurality of cells of the array based on addresses provided by the first plurality.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
algorithmically testing a random access memory (RAM) array based on addresses provided by the first plurality of cells.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein algorithmically testing comprises:
controlling match assertions of the CAM.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein testing of the RAM and testing of the CAM occur concurrently.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein algorithmic testing comprises:
reading a row of the CAM through a plurality of sense amps.
6. The method of claim 5 further comprising:
enabling the reading by asserting the word line signal.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein algorithmically testing comprises:
asserting a clock read tag signal to read or write a subset of CAM cell not participating in a match.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein algorithmically testing comprises:
operating a first subset of CAM cells in one of a read mode and a write mode; and
operating a second subset of CAM cells in a match mode.